Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2013

http://archive.org/details/superintendentso00unse_5

10-23
(May 1929)

6—7410

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

	ROGERS	
✓	EMMERT	
✓	JOFFE	
	[illegible]ON	
	[illegible]EY	
	[illegible]EN	
	[illegible]EY	
	[illegible]ARRIS	
✓	[illegible]UE	
	[illegible]NER	
	[illegible]WEITZER	
✓	[illegible]ER	
✓	[illegible]HANSLEY	
✓	[illegible]	cas
	[illegible]INSON	

LE

FILE NO.

MONTHLY REPORT

June, 1939

IMPORTANT

This file constitutes a part of the official records of the National Park Service and should not be separated or papers withdrawn without express authority of the official in charge. All Files should be returned promptly to the File Room. Officials and employees will be held responsible for failure to observe these rules, which are necessary to protect the integrity of the official records.

ARNO B. CAMMERER,
Director.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 6—7410

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYOMING

July 7, 1939

Memorandum for the Director:

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park for the month of June, 1939:

000 - General

Despite the unusually cold and rainy weather throughout most of the month, the month being the coolest June since 1928 and before that year since 1916, travel exceeded all previous years and at the end of the month 110,781 persons had been registered at the gates as against 96,820 to the same date in 1938 and 96,117 in 1937, an increase of 14.4% over 1938 and 16.5% over 1937. While pre-season travel was considerably higher than 1938 and 1937 the month of June showed an increase of 3.2% over 1938 and 6% over 1937. The record year for travel to the park was 1937 when the final figure was just short of the half-million mark.

The cabins and cafeterias had opened the latter part of May and the hotels and lodges at the various points of interest and the transportion system began operations on June 19. Plane service into West Yellowstone began on June 15. The Thumb cafeteria and Camp Roosevelt opened to accommodate visitors on June 4. The hospital opened on June 10.

A weekly newspaper, the Gardiner Gateway Sentinel, started operations in Gardiner at the north entrance to the park on June 8. The paper is edited and published by John Beckert and will contain many items pertaining to the park.

Miss Jessie Van Brunt of Brooklyn, New York, arrived in the park on June 29 with two stained glass windows which she herself designed, prepared and donated for the Mammoth Chapel. The ceremonies dedicating the windows are to be held in the Chapel on July 2.

020 - General Weather Conditions

This month was the coolest June since 1928, and before that year since 1916. The mean temperature was 3.2° below normal and the highest temperature of the month only 80° on the 29th and 30th. Snowfall was only a trace at Mammoth this June. However, the rain at Mammoth on the 16th, 17th and 18th occurred as snow at the higher elevations over the rest of the park. Precipitation was slightly below normal for June and nearly one-half inch below normal for the last six-months period.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
Yellowstone Park, Wyoming

Stained glass windows presented to the Yellowstone Park Chapel by Miss Jessie Van Brunt of Brooklyn, New York. Miss Van Brunt designed and constructed the windows herself.

From left to right, Superintendent Rogers, Miss Van Brunt, Dan Mauer, Chief of Operations John R. White, and Park Naturalist C. Max Bauer.

100 - Administrative

110 - Superintendent's Special Activities

Superintendent Rogers spent the entire month in the park making numerous inspections in the interior but no trips were made outside of the park area.

120 - Park Inspections

Ray C. Allen, Assistant Engineer, Civil, PWA, Omaha, arrived in the park on June 4 for assignment in connection with PWA projects.

David M. Geeslin, Assistant Engineer, Electrical, PWA, Omaha, arrived in the park via the east gate on June 4 on assignment in connection with PWA projects.

R. G. Redell, Assistant Landscape Architect, NPS, Omaha, arrived via the east gate on June 7 for assignment on park work throughout the summer.

M. M. Bernard, Chief of the River and Flood Division, U. S. Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C.; W. E. Maughan, Director, Weather Bureau at Helena; J. C. Alter, Meteorologist, Weather Bureau, Salt Lake City, Utah; and A. Codd, Hydrological Supervisor, Weather Bureau, Salt Lake City, arrived in the park June 7 for a conference with Meteorologist Chas. L. Howard of the Mammoth Weather Bureau.

Clarke J. Wells, Associate Electrical Engineer, NPS, Region III, Santa Fe, New Mexico, arrived in the park on June 13 for assignment on PWA projects.

Julian A. Solomon of the National Park Service, Washington, arrived via the north gate on June 22 and left on the 23.

L. C. Frank, Chief of Sanitation Section, Office of the Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service, Washington, arrived in the park on June 23, via the west gate and left on July 1.

Col. John R. White, Chief, Branch of Operations, Washington, arrived via the west gate June 24 and departed via the south gate on the 30th.

F. T. Clinton, Assistant Associate, NPS, Omaha, in east June 26 to handle Mount Washburn lookout tower job.

A. W. Burney, Assistant Chief of Engineering, NPS, Washington, arrived via the north gate June 28. He expected to leave July 3.

W. E. Robertson, Regional Engineer, Region II, Omaha, arrived via the north gate June 30 expecting to leave on July 5.

Charles Earhart, Associate Architect, NPS, Omaha, arrived via the south gate June 3 for assignment to the park during the summer.

Albert S. Anderson, Field Auditor, NPS, Region II, Omaha, who arrived in the park on May 22, left on June 17 for Omaha and returned again on June 27.

140 - Status of Private Lands

Negotiations have been under way during the month in connection with the purchase of private lands in the park between Gardiner and Reese Creek and considerable headway has been made. The properties of Anton Stermitz, Roy Armstrong, Lena Bassett Ross and the H. W. Child estate are being negotiated for.

150 - Plans, Maps and Surveys

Surveys for PWA construction were made on Lake-Fishing Bridge power system, and West Thumb power and sewer systems. Plans were completed on the former. Seven miles of telephone line survey was completed south of Lewis Lake, and a study made of the proposed Canyon sewer system.

160 - General Publicity

Sig Mickelson, who has been publicity director for the park during the past two years, arrived on June 19 to take charge of the publicity for the 1939 season. A number of stories were circulated through the press and these have all received wide publicity. The visit of the Crown Prince and Princess of Sweden late in May and early June resulted in a tremendous amount of publicity for the park.

Sixty sacks of Yellowstone circulars of general information booklets, the first shipment, were received on June 5.

170 - General Complaints

An unusually small number of complaints were registered in the park to the end of June and these were very minor ones. Copies of all complaints have been made and forwarded to Washington and replies have been made to the complainants after investigation of the complaints.

200 - Maintenance, New Construction, and Improvements

210 - Maintenance

Seal coating operations were carried on in the Gallatin, around Canyon, east of Old Faithful, and on the East Entrance road. Several miles of palliative oiling was completed on the Canyon-Lake road. At Canyon a dangerous curve on the highway was widened and toward Tower Falls considerable sloping and rock drain was completed.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] - [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] - [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] - [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] - [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] - [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] - [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] - [illegible]

[illegible]

220 - New Construction

Proj. 584 - New Trail Construction: Grading the new trail was nearly completed and platform construction started at Lookout Point.

Proj. 595 - Grand Loop 1-C2 Power Line Removal: All work was completed on this project except final hookup and removal of the old lines.

Proj. 602 - Replacement of Foot Bridges and Paths in Black Sand Basin: The new bridge was completed, old bridge removed, and paths almost finished.

PWA Construction: WT 266-b: The pump house was under roof, collecting chamber completed, septic tank and sewer ditch started.

WT 266-c: The power house foundations were completed.

LF 266-e: 2300 feet of sewer pipe laid, manholes under construction.

LF 266-f: Poles were placed in the Fishing Bridge area and excavation started on the power house.

OF 266-g: All pole and cable lines were completed, including placing of transformers except at the power house, changes in its erection plans approved.

OP 267: Mt. Washburn lookout was started, all the framework on the three secondary lookouts ready for placing.

230 - Special Improvement Activities

E.R.A. - The ERA completed the employee's cottage and all trail work.

C.C.C. - The main jobs for the two camps at Mammoth, Camps #1 and #7, were as follows: Campground development and water and sewer lines at Mammoth, water system to the Buffalo Ranch, and lookout tower at Mount Norris. At Camp #8 the main projects were the water system at Canyon and the construction of the new Canyon CCC camp. For Camp YNP #5 the main projects were the replacement of sewer line, Old Faithful trail maintenance, campground maintenance, and making preparations for the establishment of a side camp at Gallatin.

The only job shown completed during June was the metal fire tool cache at Tower Falls, Job.No. 548.

300 - Activities of Other Agencies in the Park

310 - Park Operators

All of the operations in the park were underway by the twentieth of June and all park operators reported a good business although slight-

[illegible]

ly under the 1938 season in most cases.

The price of gasoline was advanced 1/2 cent on June 17 making the price at Mammoth and Old Faithful 25 cents for regular and 27 cents for ethyl, and at other points in the park 26 cents for regular and 28 cents for ethyl.

The Yellowstone Park Company rearranged the cabin locations in the Old Faithful area.

320 - Cooperating Governmental Agencies

Mr. R. A. Clark of Helena assumed charge of the National Reemployment Service office at Mammoth on June 1 relieving Mr. Jack West who was temporarily assigned in charge of this office.

Bureau of Public Roads Projects: Guy H. James finished the east abutment and placed considerable steel on the Gardiner River bridge.

McLaughlin and Nelson continued placing gravel and started oiling west from West Thumb.

Olaf Nelson started tearing up the road below the Lewis River bridge.

Max Kuney made considerable grading progress on the East Entrance approach road and started laying gravel on the Northeast Entrance road.

Taggart Construction Company placed gravel in many of his worst road spots and got much more out for later placing.

Bureau of Fisheries: Egg collections on June 30 were as follows:

Lake Hatchery	- 24,315,202	Blackspotted eggs
Trout Lake Hatchery	- 726,524	Rainbow eggs
	(Operation completed)	
Grebe Lake Hatchery	- 5,117,660	Grayling eggs
	(Operation completed)	

It is estimated that the Blackspotted egg take will be thirty or thirty-one million this year. Low water levels in some of the streams are thought to be the cause of small egg collections. The Pelican Creek trap produced 11,861,252 eggs this year as compared with approximately 5,000,000 last season and the total collection is therefore above average. The racks at this trap are being left in the stream in order to catch suckers, although the egg-taking was completed June 29. Sixty-five suckers have been caught this year as compared with about 300 in 1938.

One or two bears have broken into the fish traps at Grouse and Columbine Creeks; however, the electric fence protection is working almost 100% and is quite satisfactory.

400 - Interpretation

410 - Lecture and Guide Service

The usual campfire lectures and other activities of the ranger-naturalists started on June 15. A special lecture was given on June 6 by the park naturalist to the Livingston Kiwanis Club on the wild life of Yellowstone Park and the relations of the Park to the nearby communities. On the same date a talk was given to the girl scouts of Livingston on wild life in Yellowstone Park illustrated by colored movies.

The Old Faithful Museum was the first to open to visitors, on May 14; Mammoth Museum next on June 4; and Norris, Madison Junction and Fishing Bridge Museums on June 15.

430 - Research and Observation

432 - Zoology

Trumpeter Swan - Broods of cygnets were observed at the following lakes:

Swan Lake	- 5 cygnets	Beach Spring	- 4 cygnets
Obsidian Lake	- 4 "	Riddle Lake	- 3 "
Geode Lake	- 4 "	Grebe Lake	- 3 "

The trumpeters are re-producing in much larger numbers than last season as 23 cygnets have been seen while in 1938 only 4 were observed. All of the nesting stations have not been visited as yet.

The pair on Trumpeter Lake nested on a muskrat house but no cygnets were hatched. Ravens are suspected of getting the eggs.

433 - Geology

The park naturalist examined two localities for possible indications of being former volcanic vents. The results were not positive; however, some pictures were made and further studies will be carried on. One is located on the south rim of the canyon a short ways east of Artist Point and the other is located near the government mess at Canyon.

500 - Use of Park Facilities by the Public

510 - Increase or Decrease in Travel

Yellowstone Park travel for the first half of June was 10.6% over 1938 and 34.2% over 1937. During the last half of June travel was 2.4% under 1938 and 6.4% under 1937. For the whole month, travel was 1.7% over 1938 and 4.5% over 1937. The average number of tourists per day during June was 2,579 as compared with 2,500 in 1938 and 2,433 in the record year of 1937. There were 77,374 people who entered the park during June which is an increase of 3.2% over 1938 and 6% over 1937.

520 - Visitors

Herbert Hoover, former President of the United States, arrived via the northeast entrance on June 16 and departed via the west gate on the 17th.

Stephen F. Chadwick, National Commander, American Legion, accompanied by his Aide Harry Colver, arrived via the north gate June 20 and departed via the same gateway June 21.

William L. Finley, nationally known wildlife photographer and naturalist, Portland, Oregon, arrived via the south gate June 23 and departed on June 27.

600 - Protection

610 - Ranger Service

The land acquisition program required much of the time of two of the headquarters personnel for land appraisal and attached work, thereby curtailing supervision of field operations. Complete revision of the Ranger's Administrative Manual, the preparation of a new Ranger's Report Manual and revision of the Entrance Station Manual placed additional pressure on the headquarters staff but these manuals are expected to prove of great value to the protection department and justify the time expended in their preparation.

Permanent rangers in the field were pressed for time as building fire inspections, supervision of extensive trail maintenance and training of CCC enrollees for fire suppression demanded immediate attention and were greatly handicapped due to the fact that full quotas of seasonal rangers were not at the stations to handle routine activities until after June 15.

620 - Police Protection

Twenty-five misdemeanor cases were tried before the United States Commissioner during June. These are classified as follows: Violations of fishing regulations (6), Defacement (6), Traffic violations (14), and miscellaneous violations (2). Fines assessed totaled $368.00. Jail sentences totaled 18 days.

630 - Wildlife Protection and Fish Cultural Activities

Buffalo - Twenty-nine of these animals were transported to the Antelope Creek pasture June 12 and 13 including 18 bulls, 6 cows and 5 calves. One buffalo died in transit and three large bulls lodged their horns in the crates and it was necessary to dehorn and release them at the Buffalo Ranch.

Two buffalo were shipped to Julesburg, Colorado, June 10, via Union Pacific from West Yellowstone. On June 26 the cow gave birth to a bull calf at Julesburg.

Bear Control - Two female black bears were shipped to Memphis, Tenn., and a pair of grizzlies to Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Bear damage and injury statistics through June 30 in 1938 and 1939 are as follows:

	1938	1939
Damages	6	6
Injuries	18	11
Incidents	24	17
Bears killed	11	0

Four of the injuries were caused by photographing, two by feeding and five were attributed to miscellaneous reasons. The warning posters and signs are well distributed over the park and all permits and literature issued at the gates are being stamped with "FEEDING BEARS IS PROHIBITED".

Fish Planting - The following plants were made in June:

Loch Leven, #1½ fingerling	- 43,062	from Emigrant Hatchery
Brook Trout, #2½ fingerling	- 6,000	from Bozeman Hatchery
Montana Greyling, Fry	- 2,063,140	from Grebe Lake Hatchery

The planting of all three species above has been completed for the year. The grayling distribution was started June 24 and completed June 29 with a reported loss in transit of only 1,550 fish.

Fish Elimination - On June 28 the tributary stream running into Goose Lake and the two lakes called Gooseneck and Warm Lakes until better names are suggested, were treated with derris root in order to eliminate the Yellow Perch. Only a few perch were found in these waters, but enough were present to re-populate Goose Lake which was treated last fall and then blocked with screens from the upper lakes. A few Brook Trout were also found. One pound of derris root to 1,000,000 pounds of water was the ration used. Five rangers, one CCC mechanic and 26 CCC workers were employed on the project for one day.

640 - Forest Fire Protection

Moving pictures of the "One Lick Method of Fire Line Construction" were shown at all of the four CCC camps. On the day following the showing of the pictures, the two camps at Mammoth were organized and all of the enrollees who were not leaving at the end of their enrollment period were given instructions in fire suppression and fire prevention. The camps at Nez Perce and Lake have been given some fire training by the district rangers. There is insufficient overhead to provide for regularly scheduled classes in fire training in these two camps, but a 25-man crew has been organized and instructed in the one-lick method at the Lake camp.

Five fire guards and three fire lookouts were employed during the

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

New National Park Speed Boat on Yellowstone Lake

month. Their work has consisted of trail clearing and repairs to telephone lines in preparation to manning primary lookout stations.

All fire tools, with the exception of a few small caches, were sent out to the various outlying stations during the month.

Fire weather stations started recording weather and inflammability data on June 12. A new fire weather station was installed at Bechler River. The average fire danger class for the month was 2.5.

Cooperative fire control agreements were made with the Gallatin, the Targhee, and the Shoshone National Forests this month.

All personnel who may have occasion to operate the municipal fire truck and pumper were given instructions and training in the operation of this equipment.

650 - Building Fire Protection

A fire, resulting in about $350 damages, occurred on June 14, when the forms on the concrete abutment for the east end of the new Gardiner River bridge caught fire and burned. The fire was noticed by numerous individuals but was not reported until the form material had almost completely burned. It was thought that the burning was controlled and a part of the contractor's construction operations.

660 - Insects and Tree Diseases

The insect control projects in Douglas Fir and Limber Pine in the vicinity of Mammoth were completed early in the month. This was accomplished under the CCC program. Permission was granted to the Bureau of Entomology to conduct penetrating oil treatment experiments for bark beetle control in the Lodgepole Pine in the Mount Washburn infestation.

680 - Accidents

A total of 29 automobile accidents were reported during the month of June of which four involved government-owned vehicles and one involving government employees. A brief resume of each of the accidents involving government-owned automobiles or government employees is given below:

On June 11, at about 3:00 p.m., 100 yards north of Beaver Exhibit in Willow Park, 11 miles from Mammoth toward Norris Junction, a 1934 Chevrolet 2-door driven by Russell Neilson struck the road collar of a culvert on the driver's left hand side of the road. The car knocked a large rock from this collar about 12 feet. After colliding with the rock, the car traveled only 10 feet and then lit on its side. There were four passengers in the automobile and all were injured.

On June 16, at 11:25 a.m., Peter Rorwick, National Park Service

Road Foreman, driving a Chevrolet pickup, Service No. 570, collided with a Buick coach, license No. Pa. 22987, driven by Charles M. Culver of Towanda, Pennsylvania, one mile from Canyon toward Lake Junction. Both automobiles were slightly damaged. Mr. Lyon, a passenger in Mr. Culver's automobile suffered a sprained wrist.

On June 25, between the hours of 4:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m., a Ford Coupe-pickup, Service No. U.S.D.I. 13731, driven by Kenneth G. Sciple, left the road at a point 4.6 miles south of Norris Junction on the Norris-Madison Junctions. Sciple was returning to Old Faithful from Gardiner, Montana, where he had been on a pleasure trip in the company of Robert Whittig, a National Park Service truck driver, and Miss Frances DeWitt, an operator's employee. The car struck a large rock on the driver's left side of the road which resulted in serious damage to the car. The damage consisted of a crushed left fender, broken bumper and front spring and bent steering rods and running board. Frances DeWitt sustained bruises on the right side of her face and abrasions of the right leg. Whittig received bruises and laceration on the right side of his head. Kenneth G. Sciple is a PWA engineer assigned to Yellowstone from the Regional Office at Omaha, Nebraska and was using the government vehicle for personal business when the accident occurred.

On June 28, at about 9:55 a.m., Robert Murphy, camp cleaner at the Fishing Bridge area, driving a 1½-ton Chevrolet truck, Service No. 554, backed into a Ford V-8 coupe, New Jersey license No. N.L. 56E., driven by Wesley Seaman, Jr., of Long Branch, New Jersey, in the Fishing Bridge campground, denting the left front fender and breaking the left head lense. No injuries resulted.

The following accident occurred to two employees of the Bureau of Public Roads:

On June 26, two employees of the Bureau of Public Roads, William Nelson, age 20, of Gardiner, Montana, and Von Rolly, age 21, of Denver, Colorado, were asphyxiated while engaged in digging a test hole on a bridge foundation site on the Yellowstone River in the Tower Falls area. No work had been done in the hole since the 24th and the gases had apparently collected during the interval. Von Rolly first descended to the bottom of the hole, which was 26 feet deep and became unconscious from the gases, and Nelson lost consciousness while attempting to rescue Von Rolly. Help was immediately summoned and the men were removed from the pit and rushed to the hospital at Mammoth, but Nelson, who had been at the bottom for about twenty minutes, died the following afternoon.

900 - Miscellaneous

An examination for the position of stenographer-typist was held by the local Civil Service Board on June 5. There were 8 competitors.

W. M. Nelson, Gardiner, Montana, an employee of the Bureau of Pub-

lic Roads, died from the effects of gas asphyxiation June 27 while in the ambulance enroute to Livingston. Nelson, with several other Bureau employees, was gassed while engaged on work in test holes for the bridge over the Yellowstone River at Tower Falls being conducted by the Bureau of Public Roads.

For the first half of June the Company strength of each of our four CCC camps was approximately 200 men. However, on June 13, 52 boys from Mammoth Camp YNP #1 and 61 boys from Mammoth Camp YNP #7 returned to their homes. On June 17 there were 45 boys from Fez Force Camp YNP #5 who returned home and on June 23 there were 49 boys from Glenn Creek Camp YNP #8 returned to their homes. All of the boys had completed their enrollment periods.

Edmund B. Rogers,
Superintendent.

VG

10-157
)ec. 1933)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

TRAVEL REPORT

..... National Park for the month of .....

	This Month	This Travel Year To Date	This Month Last Year	Last Travel Year To Date	Increase for Travel Year	
					Number	Percent
IVATE TRANSPORTATION:						
rs first entry, ...						
rs reentry, ...						
torcycles, ...						
Total motor vehicles, ...						
rsons entering via motor hicles, ...						
rsons entering via other ivate transportation, ...						
Total persons entering via private transportation, . . .						
HER TRANSPORTATION:						
rsons entering via stages, .						
rsons entering via trains, .						
rsons entering otherwise, . .						
Total other transportation, .						
AND TOTAL ALL VISITORS, . . .						

	This Year	Last Year	Increase	
			Number	Percent
tomobiles in public camps during month, ...				
mpers in public camps during month, ...				

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

TRAVEL REPORT

National Park for the month

	This Month	This Travel Year To Date	This Month Last Year	Last Travel Year To Date	Increase or Decrease	
						Percent
TE TRANSPORTATION						
first entry						
reentry						
cycles						
al motor vehicles						
ns entering via motor les						
ns entering via other te transportation						
al persons entering via vate transportation						
TRANSPORTATION						
ns entering via stages						
ns entering via trains						
ns entering otherwise						
al other transportation						
TOTAL ALL VISITORS						

	This Year	Last Year	Increase	
			Number	Percent

obiles in public camps during month
rs in public camps during month